GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:375
ANSWERED ON:20.10.2008
IMPORT OF PULSES
Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently decided to import pulses from foreign countries to augment domestic availability and to check its rising prices;and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwi th the terms and conditions of such imports?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION(SHRI TASLIMUDDIN)

(a) & (b): In order to augment the domestic availability of pulses,Government has permitted import of pulses at zero duty. In addition, Government has permitted PSU`s namely STC, PEC Ltd., MMTC and NAFED to import 1.5 million tonnes of pulses with reimbursement of losses up to 15% of landed cost and service charge of ` 1.2% of CIF value. The PSUs are to dispose the pulses in a transparent manner as approved by their respective managements. Details of import by PSU`s and NAFED are as follows:

2006-07- 49300 MT-only by NAFED

2007-08 - 1.4 Million tonnes

2008-09 - 874140 MT (up to 16.10.2008)

In view of the steps taken by the Government as indicated in para above,domestic availability of pulses has been augmented,thereby checking the rise in prices.